

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

ERDA-05 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 INR-07 L-03

NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SS-15

SP-02 FEAE-00 INT-05 OIC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 /117 W

-----015184 231306Z /45

R 231058Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7544

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, EGEN, OCON, SENV

SUBJECT: UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 196362

1. U.S. POSITION ON CONSORTIUM APPROACH DISCUSSED WITH FCO REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM MALLINSON WHO WILL BE ATTENDING DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE. REACTION TO U.S. POSITION WAS ONE OF COMPLETE AGREEMENT. FCO REP STATED THAT WHILE IT WAS FELT THAT THE CONSORTIUM APPROACH WAS A PRACTICAL IDEA, THERE WERE THINGS WHICH NEEDED WATCHING.

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ONE OF THOSE WAS THAT THERE WAS THE DANGER THAT UNEP MIGHT BE STRETCHING ITSELF TOO FAR ON THE DESERTIFICATION ISSUE -- THAT TOO GREAT EMPHASIS ON DESERTIFICATION COULD LEAD TO UNEP NEGLECTING ITS ROLE ON GENERAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. A UNEP DESERTIFICATION UNIT, HOWEVER, SEEMED FAIRLY LIKELY. ON THE FINANCIAL SIDE, TOO, THE WAY IN WHICH CURRENT UN RESOURCES WERE TO BE USED ON DESERTIFI-

CATION NEEDED TO BE WORKED OUT BEFORE FURTHER DECISIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN.

2. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE PROBLEMS, MALLINSON NAMED SEVERAL WHICH HE THOUGHT MIGHT APPEAR: (A) THE OFT-REPEATED PROBLEM OF REPRESENTATION AND ACCREDITATION OF DELEGATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE; (B) ARAB REACTION TO THE ISRAELIS DELIVERING A PAPER WHICH THEY HAVE PRODUCED ON THE SUBJECT OF THE NEGEV; AND (C) ALLEGATIONS OF BACTERIALOGICAL WARFARE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

3. THE UK DELEGATION WILL CONSIST OF ONLY FIVE REPRESENTATIVES: THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IN NAIROBI, MALLINSON FROM THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE, AND THREE INDIVIDUALS FROM THE OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY. MALLINSON PLANS TO ARRIVE IN NAIROBI ON AUGUST 25, IN TIME FOR THE INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE 26TH AND 27TH.

STREATOR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, DESERTIFICATION, SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS, RECLAIMED LAND  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 196362  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009